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TESTIMONY OF
THE CONNECTICUT MESSENGER COURIER ASSOCIATION
THE CONNECTICUT COALITION OF PROPERTY OWNERS
THE GREATER DANBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
THE LUMBER DEALERS' ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT
THE MILFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
THE NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BEFORE
THE LEGISLATURE'S LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
2:00 PM, TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010
ROOM 1E, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Good afternoon. My name is Marshall R. Collins. I am appearing in my capacity as Counsel for Government Relations for the aforementioned six organizations (the "Organizations"). Collectively they represent more than 4,000 employers of approximately 130,000 men and women in Connecticut.

The Organizations oppose **SB 169 AA Requiring Employers To Cite A Reason For Termination Of their Employees.** The bill erodes the fundamental principle of employment at will. There are numerous protections for employees against wrongful termination; thus, this bill is both unnecessary and ill advised. At a time when there has been bipartisan support for job creation, SB 169 imposes one more administrative burden upon employers and sends a signal to employers that Connecticut is one of the least favorable states in which to locate or grow a business. The bill should not be favorably reported.

The Organizations strongly oppose **SB 243 AAC Unemployment Benefits For Those Persons Who Become Disabled While Unemployed.** Unemployment compensation was created to provide assistance to workers who are out of work through no fault of their own. It is solely funded by employers. One of the few obligations of the benefit recipient is to actively seek work. SB 243 eliminates that obligation. For example a recipient who injured him or herself doing yard work and therefore was unable to actively seek work, could continue to receive benefits. The obligation to actively seek work as a condition of receiving u/c benefits should be strengthened rather than eroded. SB 243 should be rejected.

This completes my testimony. Thank you for your consideration.